

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 AUGUST 1982

Lebanon

Israeli Position -- All obstacles to the PLO evacuation of Beirut have now been removed except for Israel's demand that the PLO return the captured Israeli pilot and the bodies of nine IDF soldiers, Jerusalem radio reported citing senior Israeli officials. The question of the pilot and the bodies is an absolute condition and the agreement could stand or fall on its implementation, the officials stressed. While expressing optimism that the evacuation will start soon, the officials warned that in light of an apparent hardening of the PLO position on some undisclosed points, Israel has not entirely ruled out use of the military option should the need arise. Regarding PLO demands that Israel release several hundred Palestinians in exchange for the captured Phantom pilot, an authoritative Israeli political source cited by Jerusalem radio early on 17 August emphasized that Israel rejects any deal with the PLO. The radio also noted that Israel is awaiting replies from U.S. envoy Philip Habib on unresolved issues in the agreement for the PLO evacuation, which is scheduled to begin 21 August. Israeli Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche arrived in Beirut on 16 August to be briefed on the results of Habib's talks with Lebanese leaders, according to Beirut radio.

Regarding a Syrian withdrawal from Beirut, HA'ARETZ reported that Israel has agreed to allow the Syrian brigade and commando battalion in the capital to leave with all their weapons, including tanks and artillery. The two Syrian-controlled Palestinian Liberation Army brigades, which are part of the Syrian Arab deterrent force, will be allowed to redeploy in the Al-Biqa' Valley or in another area under Syrian control. The agreement also stipulates that Syria will absorb some 2,600 "terrorists," HA'ARETZ added. The paper pointed out that under these arrangements the Syrians might be able to extricate from Beirut some of the heavy weapons left behind by the PLO and also might be able to station PLO "terrorists" from Beirut in the Al-Biqa' or Tripoli regions.

Beirut Situation, PLO Position -- After meeting with U.S. envoy Habib, who had returned from talks in Israel, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus expressed optimism that a solution to the crisis is near, according to statements carried by Voice of Lebanon radio.

A Western source cited by Jerusalem radio said the first group of PLO fighters will leave from Beirut port to Larnaca, Cyprus. Control of the port will be transferred to the Lebanese Army before the evacuation, and as the "terrorists" reach the port, the French advance unit will land.

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio spoke of optimism about a solution but expressed fear of an Israeli "surprise" at the last minute such as an attack on Palestinian camps in north Lebanon or "aggression" in the Al-Biqa'. PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told French television that he is ready to leave Lebanon "very quickly," Paris radio observed. Speaking to KUNA, PLO Executive Committee spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar stressed that the PLO evacuation from Beirut does not mean a change in attitude toward the Palestinian issue and will not diminish Palestinian unity. He alleged that the United States has started to implement the "second link" in a Middle East settlement -- the Jordanian-Palestinian link -- within the Camp David accords, and that the U.S. threatens the independence of Arab countries. He said the PLO rejects U.S. attempts to turn Arabs into mediators in the conflict with Israel and he criticized the "silence" of Arab countries regarding Lebanon.

Syrian Position, Talks with Phalangists -- Syrian forces in Lebanon are a "legitimate presence" and they will not withdraw unless the reason and justification for the presence is eliminated, a Damascus radio commentary stressed. The issue of Syrian forces in

Lebanon concerns only Lebanon, Syria and the Arabs, and these forces have proved they can stand up to the Israeli military, the commentary insisted. Israel has not achieved its objectives in the invasion, the radio said, and the PLO has become stronger and more influential in the world.

A Phalangist delegation met with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus on 16 August, Monte Carlo radio reported adding that informed sources said the "frank and positive" talks dealt with the Lebanese situation and the presidential elections.

Presidential Elections -- Israeli forces have agreed to withdraw from the Mansur Palace area to facilitate the upcoming presidential elections, sources cited by Voice of Lebanon radio reported. According to AFP, Lebanon has asked France, Britain and the FRG to send observers to assist in the elections. Meanwhile, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt said after a ministerial meeting that the Chamber of Deputies should postpone its election session until an internal Lebanese settlement is reached. Beirut radio reported.

Tunisia on PLO Reception -- The Tunisian committee in charge of organizing the reception of 1,000 PLO fighters met to discuss preparations, an authorized source cited by TAP revealed.

Status of Cease-Fire -- The "terrorists" twice violated the cease-fire in both Beirut and eastern Lebanon, the IDF spokesman announced in statements reported by IDF and Jerusalem radios. While the IDF responded in the eastern sector, it did not return fire in Beirut. The Voice of Palestine noted that Israeli planes overflew the capital on 16 and 17 August. Meanwhile, the Israelis, Syrians and Palestinians reinforced their positions in the Al-Biqa' Valley, according to the Voice of Lebanon.

Autonomy Talks; Egyptian-Israeli Relations

Egypt has informed the United States that it will not consider resuming the autonomy talks before Israel's complete withdrawal from Lebanon and the restoration of full Lebanese sovereignty, MENA reported. If and when Egypt considers resuming the talks it will require a change in the procedure, which has so far proved fruitless, MENA added. The concepts of autonomy should be defined during the transition period preceding the exercise of self-determination, because if the talks are held on the basis of Israel's interpretations of autonomy, the Camp David accords will be divested of their real meaning.

Meanwhile, Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said normal relations between Egypt and Israel have been frozen because of the Israeli "aggression" against Lebanon and the Palestinians, the London paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT reported.

Inter-Arab Affairs

A source at the Arab League Secretariat in Tunis said 17 states have agreed to resume the Fes Arab summit on 6 September and the Arab foreign ministers meeting will be held on 28 August, KUNA reported. The agenda of the foreign ministers meeting includes the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the Iran-Iraq war and Arab relations, according to another KUNA report.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian forces fired on Iraqi positions across the Shatt al-'Arab killing 57 Iraqi troops, Tehran radio reported citing IRNA. An Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio claimed that 21 Iranians were killed in the northern battle sector, and 4 were killed in the Basra area.

Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani told newsmen in New Delhi that Iranian forces would break any Iraqi blockade of Khark Island and that Iran may have to "intensify" the war, AFP reported.

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SARBULAND SPEAKS ON DEFENSE OF REVOLUTION

LD150020 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1235 GMT 14 Aug 82

[Speech by 'Abdol Majid Sarbuland, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of information and culture, at a political unity day meeting held on 11 August at the Ministry of Information and Culture -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Comrades and most dear colleagues: A revolution is valuable only when it can defend itself. Unfortunately, during the reign of Amin and his henchmen, serious difficulties were created for the Afghan revolution. You compatriots, you friends, you comrades, you dear colleagues witnessed that during the time of Amin and his henchmen serious difficulties were created, not only for the people of Afghanistan but, in the first instance, for the PDPA and the heroic Armed Forces of Afghanistan. Enemies have made great use of this shortcoming, this defeat and -- it must be clearly said -- this deviation. We will never view the power and capability of the enemy as trivial and we should not disregard it.

The hellish network of U.S. imperialism, especially the CIA, the veteran network of intelligence services, whether in Britain, Pakistan, Egypt with As-Sadat, Saudi Arabia or the petrodollar countries of the Gulf -- all of them have consolidated, with the collaboration of the hegemonists and mad visions of China, to make maximum use of the treachery that was created inside our party by these snakes in the grass against the Afghan revolution.

Unfortunately, due to this gap a number of our toiling people and noble compatriots were scared. You see, my comrades and noble compatriots, in the 2 years since the new development stage of the revolution our people have gradually realized what is meant by Mr Reagan's worshipping Islam -- when he holds the daughter of Sabghatulla Khan Mojadidi, one of the most corrupt and bloodthirsty people of this country, in his arms and sheds the blood of millions, including thousands of noble Muslims in Lebanon. This makes clear what is meant by Mr Reagan's worshipping Islam. These are the facts and nobody can deny them. Two nights ago and last night you saw what was going on in Lebanon, what was happening to innocent children, Muslims and Arabs -- these Palestinians who have been away from their homeland for years. Is Mr Reagan looking after Islam? Does Reagan shelter the daughter of Sebghatullah Khan because of Islam?

When we see the picture of an innocent child, Qays in (Sari-e Ghazni) -- you have seen on television how he and another child were martyred by a bomb that had been hidden secretly and evilly in a family house, the house of a poor and toiling family. Is this worshipping Islam?

My compatriots, have you not seen what crimes are being committed by the homeless rebels, the mercenary enemy and the 100- or 200-year-old enemy of the people of Afghanistan -- that is, the veteran British, U.S. imperialism and Gen Ziaul Haq, who has always been an enemy of Afghanistan.

As newsmen, you, comrades, have culture and knowledge. Can you show us an hour or a day since its creation that the corrupt regimes of Pakistan have behaved as a friend or lived in friendship with the people of Afghanistan?

Friends, let us acknowledge our friends and foes. Today, as a result of the correct and principled guidance of the PDPA, a situation has been created in Afghanistan whereby our people can see with their own eyes the treacherous and anti-Islamic actions of the rebels and these criminals.

On the other hand, the party and DRA Government -- through the blessings first of all of the people and toilers of Afghan cooperation and second the principled leadership of the PDPA and the heroism and courage of our heroic army, party comrades and patriotic people -- have succeeded in crushing the hideouts of rebels in Afghanistan. Despite the hullabaloo broadcast by the imperialist propaganda network and other fabrication media, with your own eyes you can see that the peasants in Panjsher harvest their crops every night. The revolution defense comrades have close and fraternal cooperation with the people. You have seen this; the enemy cannot reject it. Whatever hullabaloo they broadcast, saying that there is unrest in Panjsher, I am telling you on behalf of the party and government that the enemy can no longer find a foothold in Panjsher. [applause]

The enemy can no longer find a position in Paghman. The enemy can no longer set foot in Marjeh, Helmand Province. These three most major routes of the enemy's communications and weapons transportation are no longer in his hands. In (Tora Bora) the enemy has been completely eliminated.

Dear friends and colleagues, in the whole of Afghanistan, in each province of Afghanistan, the locations that the enemy and the propaganda machinery of imperialism have always (?relied on) have been eliminated forever. Accordingly, a revolution has value when it can defend itself. We must defend our revolution and our homeland and we cannot hesitate in doing this. Friends, each individual of this homeland must serve in the military.

SOVIETS KILLED IN CLASHES AROUND QANDAHAR

GF151840 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 13 Aug 82 p 10

[Excerpts] London, 12 Aug (AAP) -- Mujahidin raids, particularly after sunset, increased around Qandahar soon after the 'Id. The guerrillas have also carried out certain operations within the city during daylight hours. During these raids, six Soviet and three Karmal soldiers were killed and two tanks and one military vehicle were destroyed. The Soviet helicopter gunships bombed the (Kunrigan) suburb of the Qandahar city, killing 11 citizens and two mujahidin guerrillas. The Soviet soldiers have been searching private homes and women's quarters. During one search, when resistance was offered, Soviet soldiers killed one citizen and arrested three others.

According to an Afghan Agency Press report, mujahidin destroyed a military post set up in the Qandahar teachers training school, destroyed one Soviet tank and one Soviet rocket launcher with its four operators. The Soviet soldiers, who were taken by surprise by the mujahidin, opened indiscriminate fire and killed 10 citizens at this point. Two mujahidin were killed during this skirmish.

Soon after the guerrilla attack on the Qandahar teachers training school, Soviet helicopter gunships bombed the (Kunrigan) suburb of Qandahar. Later, a large number of Soviet soldiers surrounded the suburb and began a house-to-house search for the guerrillas, who had disappeared before the Soviets began their search.

BABRAK KARMAL RECEIVES NEW PLO AMBASSADOR

LD151840 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Aug 82

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, this morning received Khalid Abdollah Ramadan, PLO ambassador in the DRA, to accept his credentials. Shah Mohammad Dost, DRA foreign minister, and Mohammad Anwar Farzam, secretary of the Revolutionary Council, and Mohammad Sakhi Daneshjo, deputy minister of the Foreign Ministry, were also present on the occasion.

PRC TRADE DELEGATION SIGNS PROTOCOL, DEPARTS

BK121258 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 12 Aug 82

[Text] The seven-member Chinese trade delegation led by Vice Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Jia Shi left Dacca for home today on conclusion of a 4-day visit to Bangladesh. During his stay, Bangladesh and China signed the sixth barter trade protocol for 1982-83 envisaging exchange of goods worth \$60 million both ways.

ERSHAD WELCOMES YUGOSLAVIA'S RADOVAN VLAJKOVIC

BK161307 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Member of Yugoslav Presidency Radovan Vljakovic was accorded a warm welcome on his arrival in Dacca this morning on a 3-day official visit to Bangladesh. As the Yugoslav special aircraft carrying Vljakovic and his five-member entourage landed at the Zia International Airport, President Assanuddin Chowdhury and Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt Gen H.M. Ershad received the honorable guest amidst a 21-gun salute. After the ceremonial guard of honor, the members of the Council of Ministers and diplomats were introduced to the distinguished guest.

Later, Radovan Vljakovic called on President Assanuddin Chowdhury at Banga Bahavan [President house]. The Bangladesh president is hosting a banquet in honor of the Yugoslav guest tonight.

Banquet Speeches

BK170938 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] The Yugoslav Presidency member Radovan Vljakovic has highly appreciated the active and principal role played by Bangladesh in the Nonaligned Movement and its contributions to overcoming the problems facing the movement today. He was speaking at a banquet hosted in his honor by President Assanuddin Chowdhury in Dacca last night. The Yugoslav leader said the members of the Nonaligned Movement are making efforts to ensure successful holding of the forthcoming summit. This demonstrates the vitality and strength of the movement and its capability to surmount difficulties threatening to impede its task and aims.

Referring to bilateral relations, Vljakovic said he is particularly glad to point out that cooperation and friendly relations between Bangladesh and Yugoslavia have been developing to the mutual benefit and in the spirit of the authentic principles of nonaligned policy. He also recalled that Bangladesh and Yugoslavia are linked by bonds of strong and traditional friendship based on common goals in the struggle to strengthen world peace and cooperation in the movement of nonaligned countries. The Yugoslav leader said there is a constant upward trend in the bilateral relations of our two friendly and nonaligned countries. Although we note successful development in our cooperation in all fields, there is a greater possibility of further economic cooperation between them.

Turning to international relations, he said the accelerated arms race is increasingly becoming a factor of overall instability, pressure and domination. We deem it necessary to continue to intensify international activities on averting the threat inherent in the arms race and at opening real prospects of general and complete disarmament.

Vlajkovic said the struggle to establish a new international economic order is increasingly becoming one of the major fields of activities of the nonaligned and developing countries. Their solidarity and concerted approach will help in attaining the coveted goal and assuring an early launching of global negotiations in this respect.

Earlier, welcoming the Yugoslav leader, President Assanuddin Chowdhury expressed the conviction that the spirit of the Nonaligned Movement will be rekindled in its forthcoming summit and endeavors will be pooled by all concerned to achieve the common goals of the Nonaligned Movement. He said both Bangladesh and Yugoslavia are united in their determination to preserve peace and stability in the world. Together, mutually supporting each other, we hope to march along the path of progress, he added.

On the situation in Lebanon, President Assanuddin Chowdhury viewed with great concern the continued intransigence of Israel and said the flagrant injustice and naked aggression being perpetuated with impunity by the Zionist entity against the Palestinians had led to the crisis in the Middle East. He also reiterated Bangladesh's deep conviction that there can be no fair and lasting solution to the problem without a total and unconditional withdrawal of all Israeli forces from all occupied territories, including Lebanon. Such a solution is also not possible without the restoration of the inalienable right of the Palestinians to a state of their own.

Referring to the fratricidal war between Iran and Iraq, the president said he expressed his deep anguish and said it is our fervent prayer and hope that out of the sorrow and pains of this war an enduring structure of peace will be rebuilt.

Turning to Africa, he said: While we rejoice at the emergence of independent Zimbabwe, our joys were overshadowed by our distress at the continued perpetuation of injustice in Namibia and Azania. There, human dignity is being barbarously trampled by racialism. We not only condemn it in unequivocal terms but also extend our unflinching support to the struggle of these people for their freedom.

The banquet was attended among others by Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt Gen H.M. Ershad, Deputy Martial Law Administrators Rear Adm M.A. Khan and Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud, ministers, Chief Justice Abdul Munim, Ataur Rahman Khan and high-ranking civil and military officials.

BRIEFS

NEW PAKISTAN AMBASSADOR -- The new ambassador of Pakistan, Mr Tanvir Ahmed Khan, presented on 9 August his credentials to President Assanuddin Chowdhury at Darbar Hall, Banga Bhavan. [Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 10 Aug 82 p 12 BK]

BARTER TRADE WITH PRC -- Bangladesh and China signed the sixth barter protocol for exchange of commodities worth about 1.3 billion taka both ways for the year 1982-83 in Dacca on 11 August afternoon. Under the protocol Bangladesh will export about 55 percent of its finished and semifinished products to China and will import about 70 percent of industrial raw material from China. [Text] [Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 11 Aug 82 BK]

SAUDI DONATION -- King Fahd of Saudi Arabia has given Bangladesh \$20 million as donation to overcome the situation caused by the recent floods. This was communicated by the Saudi Government to the food minister, Air Vice Marshal, Retired, A.G. Mahmood, in a letter on 13 August. [Text] [Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 13 Aug 82 BK]

NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION DEFEATED; GANDHI REMARKS

BK170550 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Excerpt] The no-confidence motion against the union Council of Ministers was defeated in the Lok Sabha by 327 to 110 votes last night. Intervening in the debate on the motion, the prime minister charged the opposition with irresponsibility and utter disregard for the norms of democracy. In a hard hitting speech, Mrs Gandhi said the opposition has, by bringing the motion, merely wasted the time of the house and the money of the exchequer. She said the so-called left in India has abandoned its principle and ideal and joined the right reactionaries. The left is supporting the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Rashitrya Swayamsevak Sangh and giving them respectability in the hope that this will weaken and destroy the Congress-I. But, she said it was the Congress which brought independence to India and honor and progress to the country. It is the congress which is trying against tremendous odds to preserve our culture while modernizing the country.

The prime minister rebutted the opposition arguments point by point during the 9-hour stormy debate. She asserted that self-reliance continues to be the government's basic policy and denied that the economy is being opened to foreign capital. She said only the acquisition of sophisticated technology is being allowed.

Referring to Tarapur, the prime minister made it clear that work on the technical development of an alternative fuel will be continued; its use in future is not precluded. India retains her right to reprocess the spent fuel without any further consultation.

She pointed out that millions of people have been lifted above the poverty line, though poverty still remains a challenge.

Finance Minister Defends Policy

BK161255 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee has refuted the opposition charge that the government is diluting the concept of self-reliance or veering from direction of socialistic path. He was intervening in the debate on the no-confidence motion in the Lok Sabha today. Mukherjee said massive investments in major sectors of the economy like agriculture, power, irrigation and the public sector as a whole give the lie to allegations that the government was sliding back from the principles of self-sufficiency.

Justifying the government's industrial and import policy, the finance minister said the available capacity of production will be utilized to boost exports. The liberalization of imports has also been done with the same end in view. At the same time, one-third of the total industrial production is being maintained from the small and medium sectors. This highlights the government's unrelenting effort to strengthen these sectors, he said.

Countering the argument that there is general recession, Mukherjee quoted statistics to point out that the industrial climate has shown tremendous promise and the industrial sector has registered a growth of 7.4 percent in the first quarter of the current financial year.

GANDHI CRITICAL OF OPPOSITION POLICIES

BK131607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Aug 82

[Text] The Congress-I parliamentary party has expressed happiness at the prime minister's successful U.S. visit. In a resolution adopted today it hailed the visit as an unparalleled success politically and personally for Mrs Gandhi. The visit was undertaken at a time when the India-U.S. relations had reached a delicate stage. The resolution says the statesmanship of the prime minister has once again enabled to brighten the horizons of the relations. [sentence as heard]

The general body of the party held a meeting as the monsoon session of the parliament is coming to close. Briefing newsmen, the party's general secretary, Lakappa, said that the prime minister in her valedictory address criticized the rule being played by the opposition parties. She said the opposition has never placed before the country any constructive program. She also pointed out that the opposition parties are breaking themselves.

Referring to the no-confidence motion, Mrs Gandhi said the opposition had always chosen the time to bring such motions against the government either before or after her visit abroad. She said the country's achievements have been appreciated in international forums as well as by developing and developed countries.

Turning to party affairs, Mrs Gandhi stressed the need for greater unity and discipline. She expressed concern over the tendency of partymen publicly criticizing chief ministers and other ministers. Mrs Gandhi categorically denied her hand in the removal or appointment of any chief minister.

Referring to press reports, Mrs Gandhi said some incidents which are reported as communal or caste turned out to be purely political or economic in nature. She asked her partymen to look into these matters and place the correct picture before the public.

ZAIL SINGH'S ELECTION AS PRESIDENT CHALLENGED

BK131604 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Aug 82

[Text] Twenty-seven members of parliament representing four opposition parties today filed a joint petition in the Supreme Court challenging the election of Zail Singh as president. The petitioners include Charan Singh, Lok Dal; Sayed Shabuddin, Janata; Jagganath Rao Joshi, Bhartiya Janata Party; Harikesh Bahadur, Democratic Socialist Party.

IMASHEV REAFFIRMS SOVIET STAND ON AFGHANISTAN

BK161627 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] Soviet Vice President Imashev has reiterated that Soviet troops in Afghanistan will be withdrawn the moment there is no threat of foreign aggression in that country. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh today, he said the government and the people of Afghanistan can only decide whether such a danger exists or not.

Asked to comment on American arms supply to Pakistan, he said Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi has rightly expressed her views about the issue.

Referring to the trade between India and his country, he said the volume is increasing every year and it is the highest among the developing countries.

USSR LEADERS GREET INDEPENDENCE DAY ANNIVERSARY

BK150437 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 15 Aug 82

[Text] Messages of greetings on the occasion of Independence Day are pouring in from abroad. Soviet President Brezhnev and Prime Minister Tikhonov have sent messages to President Zail Singh and Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi.

IRANIAN VISITORS ON NONALIGNED, OTHER TOPICS

Havana Meeting

LD152108 Tehran IRNA in English 1934 GMT 15 Aug 82

["Baghdad Groping for Alternative Face-Saving Moves" -- IRNA headline]

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 15, IRNA -- The victorious and successive operations of the Islamic defenders in the battlefronts, have been the principal reason for the change in venue of the non-aligned summit conference, said Kazempur-Ardabili, the international affairs undersecretary of Iran's Foreign Ministry, currently in India as a member of a high-ranking mission from Iran.

Baghdad has thus suffered another set-back in the wake of a visit here by a top-ranking delegation of Iran headed by Iran's Majlis speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani and the India's agreement to host the 7th non-aligned summit conference.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry official said that in a vain effort for regaining a lost reputation, Saddam had now volunteered to host the extraordinary assembly of the foreign ministers of the non-aligned countries in Baghdad. But he noted that the said conference would not be held there for precisely the same reasons that had removed Baghdad as host to the non-aligned summit conference.

Kazempur-Ardabili then announced that Iran would attend the session of the non-aligned conference to be held on Aug 21 and 22 in Havana "now that Baghdad would be unsafe site for the conference," said he, "but that to let it host the conference would be implicit support for one who had violated the principles of the Non-aligned Movement."

Trade Talks

LD161303 Tehran IRNA in English 1010 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 16 (IRNA) -- The position of Iran versus convening the non-aligned foreign ministers conference in Baghdad was outlined by the deputy foreign minister of international affairs, Mr Kazempur-Ardabili, a member of the Iranian mission visiting India in a meeting with ambassadors of the non-aligned member countries in New Delhi Sunday.

At the meeting, held in the residence of the Iranian delegation, Ardabili delineated the conditions of Iran for ending the war. The deputy foreign minister also emphasised the necessity for unity and strengthening of the Non-aligned Movement for the implementation of its policies. He called on the ambassadors to support the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In another development, the Iranian deputy minister of commerce met and conferred with the Indian minister of commerce. Existing problems of trade exchange between Iran and India were discussed and proposals for further expansion of commercial relations were reviewed.

The upcoming visit of the Indian minister of commerce to Iran at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart was also studied. The Indian minister announced the readiness of his country to grant any assistance to Iran to remove the war stricken areas. He also expressed hope that an Iran-India trade agreement would be signed during his visit to Iran.

Atomic Power Program

BK161445 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] Iran favors the nonaligned summit to be held in India. This was stated by speaker of the Iranian parliament Rafsanjani at a press conference in New Delhi today. He said if India wants more time, it has the right to ask for that. He said that the nonaligned foreign ministers conference to settle the venue cannot be held in Baghdad as the place is not safe. If it is held there, Iran will not participate.

Rafsanjani told newsmen that his country has sought India's help for its atomic power program. He said that Iran is ready to pay compensation to any Indian national whose property has been destroyed in the Iran-Iraq war.

Nonaligned Ministers Meeting

BK161726 Hong Kong AFP in English 1446 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Excerpts] New Delhi, Aug 16 (AFP) -- Iran today announced it might intensify its 23-month-old war with Iraq and said it was opposed to holding a non-aligned foreign ministers meeting to decide on a new venue for the movement's summit in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad.

Visiting speaker of the Iranian parliament Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani told newsmen here today that the meeting was an "Iraqi trick" to get Baghdad endorsed as the venue for the eighth non-aligned summit in 1985.

"We are opposed to any kind of meeting in Baghdad...not only the foreign ministers level meeting, but also the 1985 summit," he said before leaving for home at the conclusion of his six-day visit to India.

Mr Rafsanjani said Iran was well prepared to face any "Iraqi threat" and might in fact intensify its war against Iraq.

He was reacting to the defiant announcement last night by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn of a total blockade of Iran's main oil terminal on Khark Island.

Mr Husayn had informed Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi earlier this month that Iraq would accept New Delhi as the venue for the seventh summit if the 90-odd members of the movement agreed that Baghdad be the venue for the eighth in 1985.

Mr Rafsanjani, who is Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's representative in the all-powerful Iranian Defence Council, reiterated his government's support of New Delhi as an alternative venue.

Meanwhile, highly placed diplomatic sources here said New Delhi was finding the Iranian insistence that the foreign ministers meeting not be held in Baghdad a "little embarrassing".

New Delhi has yet to announce its stand publicly but the sources said India was in favour of at least holding the foreign ministers meeting in Baghdad.

Speaking on the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, Mr Rafsanjani said Iranian forces would break any Iraqi blockade of the Khark Island, situated in the northeast of the Gulf, from where Iran exports the bulk of its oil.

"The island is protected by very sophisticated weapons.... We are not at all worried by the Iraqi threat," he said.

Observers had said that the Iraqi threat to blockade the island and to "strike (at) all essential and vital Iranian targets" was Iraq's first attempt to take the initiative since Iranian troops stormed into Iraqi territory east of Basra a month ago.

They suggested that the move was prompted by Iraq's failure to push back the Iranian soldiers and by President Husayn's decision -- under pressure -- to drop plans to hold the non-aligned summit in Baghdad.

Mr Rafsanjani said that Iraqi troops were still holding four strategic hills inside Iranian territory and said his forces might have to intensify the war. "Our conclusion is that the war cannot be stopped by negotiation.... Our soldiers will win it," he said.

Speaking about the possibility of Indo-Iranian nuclear cooperation, Mr Rafsanjani said his country wished to meet its nuclear needs from India to reduce dependence on Western countries. No immediate Indian reaction on possible nuclear cooperation was available.

MEDIA HAIL PRIME MINISTER GANDHI'S VISIT TO U.S.

Leads to Warmth, Understanding

BK071427 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Commentary by C.S. Pandit, bureau chief of AMRITA BAZAR PATRIKA]

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi's just concluded visit to the United States has been most satisfactory, according to her own statement on arrival at the Delhi Airport. She also expressed the hope that the improvement in the relations between the two countries as a result of her visit would be durable. Obviously, the visit has led to a qualitative change in Indo-U.S. relations from the estrangement of the past decade to warmth and willingness to understand each other. It began with modest expectations from both sides. There was no attempt from either side to ignore differences in policies and perceptions. What is more significant is that it is now accepted that such differences are inevitable given the historical and geographic realities and the national and global goals and priority shaping them.

As the prime minister often pointed out during the visit, it was not meant to solve any problems, nor to seek aid but to explain India's position on a variety of issues and remove misconceptions as regards attitudes and motivations. Thus, the prime minister's attempt, begun at Cancun, to achieve a meeting of minds, has succeeded in placing Indo-U.S. relations on a stable and mature footing. These are the immediate reactions to the outcome of the visit which was widely publicised in the media in both countries. It has no doubt aroused wide expectations after a decade of tenuous relationship. Whether these expectations would be fulfilled would now depend on how the day to day relations between the two countries shape in the coming months.

One thing that stands out is that for the first time during her three visits to the United States as India's prime minister, Mrs Gandhi was able to have her say without any specific issue casting its ominous shadow on the talks. Her visit soon after she became prime minister followed the unpopular devaluation of the rupee under Western pressure. The second visit in 1971 was a bigger disaster with over 10 million [as heard] refugees from what was then east Pakistan on India's soil and Pakistan's threatening to go to war in confident hope of U.S. backing in the wake of the famous Nixon tilt. This time, too, the USA has committed huge military aid to Pakistan. But India is confident of meeting any eventuality even though it is still concerned about the inevitable deterioration in India's security environment. These are realities of the international situation which India has learned to take in its stride. For once, there was no attempt from the American side either to pressure India to conform to its own global assurances that the arms that were being given to Pakistan would not be used against India. In other words, there is a greater realism on both sides in dealing with each other.

This is also apparent from the solution which has been found to the problem of the fuel supply to Tarapur, an issue which has soured relations between the two countries in the past few years. Until a few months ago, there was no indication that the USA was willing to find such a solution through a third party involvement. While differences persist between the two sides on reprocessing of the spent fuel stored at Tarapur, they have not been allowed to stand in the way of this trilateral arrangement with France for continuing supply of enriched uranium for Tarapur. This is clearly indicative of desire on the part of President Reagan and his administration to find solutions to problems that had stood in the way of a normal healthy relationship between the two countries. That was also reflected in the reported appreciation in Washington now that India was not tied to the Soviet Union for its defense and that its efforts to diversify its sources of defense supplies was to retain its independence. It was also conveyed in no uncertain terms to the USA that India was not interested in buying sophisticated weapons if it cannot simultaneously acquire technology to produce them ultimately. That naturally rules out any deal with the United States for sophisticated warplanes even though reports kept appearing in the American media of possible sale of such planes to India. All this has gone a long way toward removing some of the misgivings in Washington about India's defense links with the Soviet Union. At the same time, the Indian prime minister has left no doubt that it values its friendship with the Soviet Union and would not allow it to be affected in any way by its efforts to improve relations with other countries like the United States or even China.

One thing that should have become clear to the policy planners in Washington after this visit is that India is willing to have a warm and working relationship with the United States on the basis of equality and mutuality of interests but not on the basis of conformity as was expected of it by Washington in the past. There is also an encouraging indication from both sides to understand and appreciate each other's compulsions in the context of their overall national or global interest.

Public Relations Success

BK141516 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 7 Aug 82 p 6

[Article by Ajit Bhattacharjee: "A Successful Visit"]

[Text] Judging from the coverage of and comments on Mrs Gandhi's visit to the United States in the media of both countries, it has been an undoubted success. Now the time has come to take a hard look at the achievements so that we expect neither too little nor too much in future.

Primarily, it was a success as an exercise in summit-level public relations. This is not to dismiss the achievements as unsubstantial. After the kind of sympathetic projection President Reagan and Mrs Gandhi received in the media of both countries, their future actions will not be judged in the black and white terms they were before. Even when the two governments differ, they will now presumably try to understand the other's point of view rather than treat it as hostile.

Mrs Gandhi contributed considerably to this achievement. To a journalist who covered her first visit to the United States as prime minister in 1966, the improvement in her ability to handle the media can only be described as phenomenal.

I recall her inability or unwillingness at the time to go beyond "yes", "no" or "maybe" in reply to the most leading questions. She showed no sign of the experienced politician's flair for turning the most unsympathetic question to advantage by making it as an opportunity to get her own point of view across. Or alternatively, of answering a hostile question with the kind of quick repartee that arouses admiration rather than creates embarrassment.

For instance, there was nothing then like the prompt "we stand upright" in response to a question asking which way India tilted. The appreciative laughter came through clearly even on the radio. It cut off any further inconvenient questions about her government's relations with the Soviet Union.

This made it possible for the prime minister to persist with the central theme that close relations with one superpower need not come in the way of establishing similar relations with the other. It may not have been necessary to state this repeatedly a few years ago. But with the Reagan administration returning to the John Foster Dulles policy of attempting to isolate the Soviet Union in every way, it needed renewed emphasis.

Excellent public relations on the American side also softened the image of President Reagan. He no longer appeared to be an innocent and ignorant cowboy actor thrust into the most powerful office in the world. He is clearly a good learner. But it would be too much to expect him to revise his attitude towards Moscow because of his talks with Mrs Gandhi. Nor did any report suggest that he was able to persuade the prime minister to change her views.

The announcement of the Tarapur compromise formula was the keystone of the exercise in public relations. It contributed the specific agreement that gave weight and credibility to the diplomatic fluff of adulatory speeches that usually mark such summit meetings. Yet it was obvious that the main terms of the agreement had been worked out in advance, though some crucial details remained to be settled. The timing of the announcement was a superb piece of public relations by the President. He managed to convert an embarrassment into an apparent concession.

On this issue, in fact, New Delhi has shown much more patience and forbearance than Washington. Once the Americans stopped regular supply of nuclear fuel to India, and thus broke a formal agreement, it was open to New Delhi to obtain the fuel from any other source and take steps to reprocess the spent fuel. But even though Tarapur was forced to operate at half its capacity to conserve fuel, these steps were not taken. Instead, it was decided to develop an indigenous fuel for Tarapur called MOX (mixed fuel cycle) on which large amounts of money have been spent, so as to be free of foreign restrictions. This may now prove to be a waste.

The agreement to permit India to obtain the fuel from France, therefore, does not represent a U.S. concession. It only represents an ingenuous way of getting around the contradiction into which the United States had locked itself by giving its nuclear non-proliferation act, passed in 1978, retrospective effect over an international agreement on Tarapur signed 15 years earlier, while retaining the restrictive terms of the 1963 agreement.

The U.S. act seeks to prevent the supply of nuclear material to any country that does not accept "full-scope" safeguards, in other words, international inspection of all its nuclear facilities. While accepting such safeguards for Tarapur, New Delhi refused to allow inspection of indigenously-built reactors and other facilities. To do so would go against the stand India has consistently taken -- that it was unfair and discriminatory for the nuclear powers to insist on others accepting inspection and other safeguards against the diversion of nuclear fuel to military purposes when they were not willing to accept any such limitation themselves.

It remains to be seen how the U.S. Congress reacts to this way of getting around legislation it had adopted. Sharp disagreement has emerged on India's right to reprocess spent fuel, a vital process for its future programmes. A way has to be found to provide the spares urgently needed by Tarapur without infringing U.S. legislation. Only when these problems have been resolved, and the terms on which France agrees to supply the low grade enriched uranium fuel needed are known, can the future of Tarapur and that of India's nuclear development plans be assured. The fact remains, all the same, that the Reagan administration has been able to come out with a formula with Mrs Gandhi's co-operation to resolve an issue that has been souring Indo-U.S. relations. This indicates that President Reagan is now placing a value on achieving good relations with India that he did not seem to earlier. And the prime minister is responding.

Many factors must have contributed to this shift. One is the inevitable education a new entrant to the White House receives on the facts of international relations. Shades of grey replace initial black and white attitudes to countries and individuals. The fact that India remains a stable element in an unstable region must have registered. And the fact that it is limiting its dependence on the Soviet Union for arms, and does not side with it on all occasions, must have also made it seem worth cultivating.

Another possible element in Washington's strategy is the deterioration in its relations with Beijing. The U.S. decision to continue supplying arms to Taiwan continues to create friction. Reports of moves to bridge the gulf between Beijing and Moscow may also have persuaded the White House to seek alternative options in its Asian strategy.

Nobody suggests that common democratic values play a role in determining the direction of American investments abroad. The renewed interest shown in the United States towards investing in India is more the outcome of the steps taken by New Delhi to liberalise its restrictions on industry than of anything said by Mrs Gandhi.

In this recital of achievements at the public relations level, we should not lose sight of the fact that there was no sign of the Reagan administration modifying its foreign policy in areas where it clashes with India's interests. The decision to sell sophisticated arms to Pakistan remains in spite of the prime minister's repeated protests that they can only be used against India. Nor is there any sign of the two governments coming closer in their policies on Afghanistan, Kampuchea or the Indian Ocean. And, finally, American officials did not seem to be persuaded by Mrs Gandhi's stress on the need for continuing multilateral foreign assistance.

Well-Defined Aims Achieved

BK091241 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 4 Aug 82 p 7

[Editorial: "Mrs Gandhi's U.S. Visit"]

[Text] Prime Minister Indira Gandhi went to Washington with two well-defined aims: first, to establish personal rapport with President Reagan and try to remove the many misgivings concerning India which seemed to assail him, and, second, to start a process of reassessment in the U.S. administration of India's role in this region. Both these aims seem to have been achieved. On the other hand, despite obviously inspired previsit leaks, she did not intend either to clinch deals or to counterbalance any alleged Soviet pressure by establishing an American connection. If the Tarapur nuclear fuel deal came through, it was entirely America's choice. In fact, many believe it was smart of American diplomacy to make a face-saving device look like a concession.

At the time of independence, Jawaharlal Nehru, laying down the parameters of our foreign policy, declared that while India need not inherit Britain's prejudice against the Soviet Union, she must not on any account neglect the world's second largest democracy. It is in pursuance of this long-term policy that successive Indian prime ministers have tried to make sure, by personal visits and in other ways, that India's desire for American friendship is appreciated. Yet it is an irony that successive American administrations need to be convinced about this. President Truman tried to understand but was foxed by the newness of the concept of non-alignment. President Eisenhower, advised by John Foster Dulles, seemed to think that there was nothing to understand and that anyone who was not for you was obviously against you. Of the recent presidents, Kennedy and Carter tried, but Johnson and Nixon let the needs of global power politics mould the policy towards India. President Reagan seemed to be following the Johnson-Nixon line with a vengeance. To the extent that Mrs Gandhi has shown him how India despite her different policy perspectives is not an enemy but a friend of the USA, her mission would be deemed successful.

Coming events will show if, and how far, U.S. appreciation of Indian policy perspectives has changed. Will we continue to be accused of a pro-Soviet bias because we refuse to overlook the non-Soviet foreign armed interference in Afghanistan? Will we be regarded as an obstacle to the American strategic consensus if we point out that next generation weapons in the hands of Pakistan are bound to endanger India as they have always done? Lastly, do we have to continue to point out that support for military and other dictatorships to the detriment of democratic societies is incompatible with the interests of world peace and progress?

India's Perceptions Upheld

BK120051 New Delhi PATRIOT in English 6 Aug 82 p 2

[Editorial: "India-U.S. Perception"]

[Text] Even before the prime minister's return from her visit to the United States, the wide chasm between Indian and American perceptions of a number of major bilateral and international issues has come to the surface. This is not at all surprising because Mrs. Gandhi had not gone to the U.S. to change this country's carefully formulated and time-tested policies, nor did the prime minister aspire to alter Washington's attitudes. The visit was undertaken primarily to strive for a better understanding of this country's viewpoint in the United States and this the prime minister tried to do in a dignified and forthright manner. On no important issue has Mrs. Gandhi left any room for ambiguity. Her statements have been so candid that they do not lend themselves to any distortion by those who may be tempted to do so. The prime minister's categorical remark on Washington's support for Israel in the context of its current invasion of Lebanon is an eloquent illustration of her straight forward presentation of Indian viewpoint. She did not hesitate to underline the fact that most of the arms being used by Israel were supplied by the U.S. and it could have done a good deal more given the influence of the American President, its government and its people have on Tel Aviv. Without mincing words, Mrs. Gandhi expressed her concern that the level of confrontation in the world had grown to very dangerous proportions. Implicit in this observation was the prime minister's disapproval of all such steps which exacerbate international tension.

It was but natural that many questions should have been directed at the prime minister about Indo-Soviet friendship. Mrs. Gandhi's replies reflected correctly the spirit of this country's foreign policy which aims at strengthening this bond and seeks more friendships; but not at the cost of existing ties. "We value Soviet friendship and we will not give it up," the prime minister observed forcefully. In fact, Mrs. Gandhi displayed remarkable alertness when she dealt with questions pertaining to Soviet arms. India, she said, took into account the factor of cost and transfer of technology in making decisions in this regard. But, in order to leave no room for interested propaganda, she added with considerable force "Soviet weapons bought by India had performed well." On Afghanistan also the prime minister did not yield from the well-known Indian position that not only Soviet troops should be withdrawn from that country, but all other forms of interference, which we know are taking place, should be ended.

On two crucial questions of direct concern to India -- reprocessing of spent fuel at Tarapur and supply of U.S. arms to Pakistan -- Mrs. Gandhi unflinchingly reiterated the Indian viewpoint. She made it clear that the claim that American arms were being supplied to Pakistan for use against the Soviet Union was totally untenable and that this country has the right to reprocess spent fuel and would not give to any other country the right to veto in this matter. In fact, even while elucidating the government's policies in regard to foreign investment, Mrs. Gandhi made it clear to American industrialists and businessmen that liberalisation had been undertaken not because of the World Bank's advice, but because the government thought that it was necessary for the country's future growth. In our democratic policy, there is room for debate and difference on the government's policies, but all political parties must give to the prime minister the credit for upholding steadfastly the right of this country to adhere to its own perception even when she was engaged in the delicate exercise of removing misconceptions about India's position on various questions in the United States.

EXPRESS COMMENTS ON WORLD BANK, IDA ASSISTANCE

BK151531 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 5 Aug 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Small Comfort"]

[Text] Comforting as is, the assurance given by the World Bank president, Mr A.W. Clausen, to Mrs Gandhi, it is no cause for elation. He has promised to try and enhance the bank's overall assistance to India or at least ensure that it is maintained at the current level. Obviously, Mr Clausen is not sure whether the first part of his promise will be fulfilled. The hesitant note reflects no lack of appreciation of India's record of aid utilisation in the past and its need for continuing assistance, but the bank's own financial constraints. India's creditworthiness is not in question as it has never defaulted on loan repayment. Moreover, external assistance has been used for legitimate purposes such as strengthening infrastructure, modernisation of agriculture and population control. But much more remains to be done.

The ambitious long-term goals set in vital areas like power generation, oil exploration, irrigation, afforestation, and expansion and modernisation of core sector industries and services, cannot be achieved without substantial mobilisation of funds. India, therefore, has a compelling case for increased assistance from the World Bank, and particularly from its concessional lending facility, the International Development Association [IDA].

Unfortunately, loan prospects have not been too bright in recent years due to the unresponsive attitude of the donor countries, particularly the United States. The Reagan administration has pruned and staggered its contributions to the IDA's sixth replenishment resulting in a severe constraint on its lending capacity. The situation was saved to some extent by other donors honouring their commitments rather than following the U.S. example. Nonetheless, the total pledged for disbursement in the current year has fallen nearly one billion dollars short of expectations.

India, IDA's largest beneficiary, has been hurt the most. Though the World Bank promised to make good the loss through normal credits, these have a shorter repayment period and a substantially higher rate of interest compared to IDA loans. Maybe, India will have to lean more heavily on this costlier option. But the prospects may dim further because China has staked its claim for IDA assistance under the seventh replenishment next year. India's plea that a reduction in concessional aid at this stage would penalise its relative success has fallen on deaf ears. This situation has compelled the country to abandon its self-denying ordinance against using the Asian Development Bank's credit facility. It intends to draw nearly two billion dollars from the ADB over a five-year period beginning in 1983. This should not pose any problem for other entitled borrowers if the U.S. and other donors agree to a proposed increase in their contributions to the ADB. In any case, the constrictive aid climate is a compelling reason for India to improve and expedite implementation of developmental programmes and intensify its export effort.

COMMUNIQUE ON DISARMAMENT ISSUED WITH MONGOLIA

BK150435 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 15 Aug 82

[Text] India and Mongolia have underlined the need for positive measures of disarmament, particularly reduction of nuclear arms. In a joint communique issued at the end of the 4-day visit of Mongolian Foreign Minister Dugersuren both sides expressed deep concern over the deteriorating situation in West Asia.

GOVERNMENT SELECTIVE ABOUT FOREIGN INVESTMENT

BK130930 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 13 Aug 82

[Text] The finance minister says the government will not hesitate to invite foreign investment if it is to our advantage. Pranab Mukherjee told the Lok Sabha today that the government is very selective about foreign investment. Foreign investment is now allowed in high technology areas, export oriented industries and some identified industries which help in raising overall production. Within this overall framework, steps are now being initiated to speed up the investment clearance procedure.

OIL INDUSTRY PROBLEMS LEAD TO MORE IMPORTS

BK101132 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] The country will have to import an additional 2 million tons of petroleum products this year. The preliminary estimate of import was about 4 million tons. Petroleum Minister P. Shiv Shankar informed the Lok Sabha that this is mainly because of the industrial relations problems in the refinery of the Bharat Petroleum Corporation in Bombay till June this year. The work at a secondary crude processing unit was also hampered. There was also some delay in the completion of the secondary processing unit in Mathura and Koyali refineries, the minister added.

Yaqub Khan Outlines Foreign Policy Objectives

BK161636 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has said that Pakistan is following a policy of peace and friendship with all countries on the basis of sovereign equality. In an interview with a Rawalpindi weekly in which he explained the important ingredients of Pakistan's foreign policy, he said Pakistan will not yield to any country's threat to its sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence. The foreign minister said the supreme objective of a country's foreign policy is to defend its borders and promote the economic progress of its people. He said: With this aim in mind Pakistan has worked to create an atmosphere of peace and stability in the region.

The foreign minister said Pakistan, as an ideological state, has always tried to promote the interest of the Islamic community and strengthen relations with the Islamic states. Pakistan has demanded right from the beginning the restoration of all occupied Arab areas including Jerusalem to Arab sovereignty and has stressed the Palestinians' right of self-determination, including the establishment of an independent Palestine state.

The foreign minister said Pakistan, as a member of the Nonaligned Movement, has always endeavored to maintain the independent status of the movement. Pakistan is opposed to neocolonialism, apartheid, domination and hegemony in all forms and manifestations.

The foreign minister said the United Nations, the Islamic Conference Organization and the Nonaligned Movement have strongly supported Pakistan's stand regarding the Afghanistan issue.

On relations with India, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said Pakistan has proposed a no-war pact to India, keeping in mind its policy of peace and friendship. He said Pakistan sincerely believes and hopes its relations with India will be promoted on the basis of mutual confidence.

The foreign minister said Pakistan has good relations with the Soviet Union in the economic and technical fields. He said with the signing of the economic aid and military sales package Pakistan and the United States have entered into a new phase of bilateral cooperation.

Elections to Local Bodies Set for September 1983

BK170930 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 17 Aug 82

[Text] Preparations have begun at all levels for holding local bodies' elections in September next year. This was stated by the federal minister for local government and rural developments, Syed Fak Imam, while he was talking to newsmen at the national center for rural development in Islamabad this morning. He said that, as a first step, work on delimiting electoral constituencies has been started because several new districts have been set up. He said these elections will be held on a nonparty basis and almost the same modalities which were adopted earlier will be followed this time.

BRIEFS

ISLAMIC BANK LOAN -- Under an agreement signed in Jidda, the Islamic Development Bank will provide a \$53 million loan to Pakistan for importing crude oil from Saudi Arabia. This agreement is a part of the long-term program for importing crude oil from Saudi Arabia for the Karachi national refinery. [Text] [Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 5 Aug 82 BK]

NEPALPRIME MINISTER MEETS SPECIAL ENVOY FROM IRAN

BK161529 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 14 Aug 82

[Text] Special presidential envoy of Iran and Deputy Foreign Minister S. ol-Eslam met Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa in his office today and handed over the letter for his majesty the king by Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i. The special envoy (also notified) Prime Minister Thapa of Iran's view about the nonaligned summit and the Iran-Iraq war. [passage indistinct] The Iranian envoy left Katmandu for Malaysia today.

SRI LANKAIRANIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 13 Aug

LD140800 Tehran IRNA in English 1953 GMT 13 Aug 82

[Text] Colombo, Aug 13, IRNA -- Mr Shaykh ol-Eslam, the deputy foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, arrived here late this afternoon after talks with Pakistani officials concerning the upcoming non-aligned summit meeting.

Later he met with the Sri Lankan deputy foreign minister and expressed the views of the Islamic Republic in respect to the (change in venue of the non-aligned conference) from Baghdad to another country, and the issue of the Iraqi imposed war. Mr. Shaykh ol-Eslam will meet with the Sri Lanka president Saturday and will present to him a message from President Khamene'i. The Sri Lankan foreign minister is currently on a foreign visit.

Other delegations from the Islamic Republic are touring Latin American, African, Middle Eastern and Asian, nonaligned countries to declare Iran's position on the nonaligned summit meeting which is to be held later this summer.

Hands Message to President

LD151020 Tehran IRNA in English 0904 GMT 15 Aug 82

[Text] Tehran, Aug 15, IRNA -- The political undersecretary of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, Mr Shaykh ol-Eslam, in a meeting with the Sri Lankan president, Junius Richard Jayewardene, on Saturday morning, presented to him a written message from President Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic.

In this meeting, the Sri Lankan president stated that his country was beside Iran in the Non-aligned Movement and that "I believe Iraq should not have attacked Iran".

Shaykh ol-Eslam in reply said that Iran was opposed to the holding of the non-aligned foreign ministers meeting in Iraq just for the same reasons that it was against convening of the non-aligned summit conference in Baghdad. Therefore, the foreign ministers assembly too, should be convened somewhere else, he said, adding that otherwise a number of progressive member countries of the movement would refuse to attend the session.

At the end of the visit, negotiations were conducted around the possibilities of expanding bilateral cooperation between Iran and Sri Lanka.

SPEAKER HASHEMI-RAFSANJANI RETURNS FROM INDIA

LD162130 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Excerpt] According to a Central News Unit report, Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani has returned tonight from his visit to India. The Majlis speaker went to India as the head of a high-ranking delegation at the invitation of the president of the Indian parliament.

The Majlis speaker and his delegation were met at the airport by Foreign Minister Velayati, Defense Minister Salimi, several Majlis deputies and a large crowd of people.

JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 1,018 DETAILS FIGHTING

LD161802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Communique No 1,018 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. In the operational sector in the western part of the country Islam's forces continue their efforts to clear up roads and areas of minefields and boobytraps, while consolidating defensive positions and developing their position. Simultaneously with these efforts, our combative units are pounding enemy positions and fortifications with artillery and mortar fire, preventing Iraqi forces from redeploying. In the western part of the country over the past 24 hours our artillery units caused substantial damage to an enemy border post, brought one supply route under heavy fire and halted traffic by the hirelings' vehicles.

Powerful artillery of the Islamic army aimed at enemy encampments and concentration points in the (Rushan), Panjwin, (Dyarah) and Tutman regions silenced enemy artillery fire, destroyed five bunkers, one artillery piece and several warfare stores, and killed or wounded at least 25 Saddamists.

In the operational sector in the southern part of the country the ever-victorious warriors of the army of monotheism had all enemy land activity under control and prevented Iraqi forces from carrying out engineering, armor and infantry activity, silencing active enemy artillery. In addition, enemy air aggression against border areas in the western and southern parts of the country was neutralized with tactical measures by fighter aircraft of the Islamic Republic of Iran and by air defense fire, forcing intruding aircraft to flee.

Combative units of the navy and the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran stationed along the Arvand Rud continually maintained total vigilance over the Iraqi forces' activity on the other side of the river, and by firing on their positions prevented them from digging trenches, building fortifications and moving about.

Yesterday the hirelings of Saddam's criminal army directed fire at residential areas in Abadan and destroyed three buildings and martyred or wounded a number of our compatriots.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

MUSAVI-ARDEBILI'S SERMON ON GAINS OF WAR

LD131646 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Millions of our Muslim compatriots throughout the country today took part in the religious-political Friday prayers. Just as on previous Fridays, Tehran University -- this meeting place of the lovers of God and the followers of the path of truth -- witnessed the participation of vast numbers of revolutionary and Muslim people of Tehran in the glorious Friday prayers led by Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili, acting Friday imam of Tehran.

Referring to divergencies and beliefs which are set forward in the name of genuine Islam, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili said in his first sermon: All Islamic ideological beliefs are quite clear with regard to texts, analysis and interpretation and there are no vague points concerning Islamic beliefs. No one today should fabricate views of his own and present them to the people and youth in the name of genuine Islam -- an Islam which has been in existence for 14 centuries.

He said: We notice some difficulties at the moment in implementing Islamic teachings in society. We refer to these difficulties, not to criticize or to make revelations, but rather to simply express these difficulties. There are certain problems in various ministries, in judicial organs, in schools, in factories and in economic institutions.

The acting Friday imam of Tehran then raised certain questions about sentences passed, innovations, irresponsible dealings with the people, false accusations against others, obstructing the running of various government departments, bad appointments, factionalism, difficulties in production and distribution and in the agricultural and industrial sectors. Referring to a speech by his holiness Imam 'Ali, may God's peace be upon him, in which he said the roots of corruption and sedition lie in selfishness, egotism, self-satisfaction and in heresy or heretical ideas and which do not have correct Islamic foundations, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili said: If these corruptions and seditions are noticed in society, and if today we are not mindful and do not strongly put an end to them, and if these problems are not nipped in the bud, tomorrow may be too late. He made certain recommendations to the officials in this connection.

In his second sermon, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili referred to some of the sayings of the lord of the faithful. 'Ali ibn Abi-Talib -- may God's peace be upon him -- about fighting against aggressive enemies. He said: Some people ask why we have entered Iraqi territory. Which one of us does not know that the Aflaqite Saddam, his friends, his allies and his master, fully mobilized themselves to fight against us? It is not long since Iraqi aircraft attacked Iran and started the aggression. Therefore, we either had to submit to Saddam and the Saddamists, or we had to drench our swords in the enemy's blood. The acting Friday imam of Tehran said: The enemy started this war by his aggression and is continuing it. From the first day we have merely defended ourselves and are still defending ourselves.

Referring to the gains achieved as a result of the war, the acting Friday imam of Tehran said:

[Begin recording] Thanks be to God, the gains achieved as a result of the war have not been merely military victories. We have had other gains. The current discussion about the meeting of the Nonaligned Movement is not Saddam's last defeat. Saddam's last defeat will be when, God willing, he will go where he has to go to. However, this is one of the gains of the war.

Do you think that if we had not succeeded in the war the world would have been able to change the venue of the nonaligned meeting? We saw from the beginning how they were treating the issue, and we can see how they are treating it now. At the beginning, the world did not allow us even to discuss the matter. But now, not only have they accepted the change of venue of the summit, Saddam asked them to allow the little ones, the foreign ministers, to go to Iraq so that he would not be too disgraced. But they said: No, even this cannot be done; they should go to Havana. This is one of the gains of our war.

Another gain of our war was the defeat of that movement in the Gulf. Did you see what a movement had started in the Gulf? Our repeated successes on the battlefronts proved even to the most reactionary individuals that these movements are absolutely futile. Therefore, this war has had many gains. We are still at the beginning of the process. It is still the early stages of love, do not lose heart. [quotation from a Persian poem]

The struggling forces of Iraq have only recently been set free. The explosions which take place in Iraq or in France, one after the other, inform the world of a serious and imminent danger and prevent Saddam from sleeping. The release of these forces has been a result of the continuous victories of your forces. [end recording]

Continuing his second sermon, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili emphasized: We will receive war reparations from the enemy. It will not be long before Saddam reaches the stage where he has to admit he was the aggressor. The acting Friday imam of Tehran also said the tumultuous welcome accorded to Iranian delegations in other countries is a clear sign of the repeated victories of the Islamic revolution of Iran. He emphasized that from the beginning of enemy aggression our position has been one of defense, and even now when the forces of Islam have entered Iraqi territory our goal is self-defense because, as 'Ali ibn Abi-Talib says, the enemy should be destroyed in his own territory. The acting Friday imam of Tehran said: We have not moved from the position of justice and we will not do so. We hope the world will come to know this reality.

In conclusion, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili preached a sermon in Arabic, addressed to the Arab sisters and brothers.

GHARAZI PAYS VISIT TO SYRIA, LIBYA, ALGERIA

Damascus Arrival Remarks

LD131244 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Aug 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the Iranian delegation led by Petroleum Minister Gharazi arrived in Damascus yesterday. The delegation was welcomed at the airport by Syrian Oil Minister ad-Dahhak, several officials of the Syrian Oil Ministry and the ambassador and staff of the embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in that country.

On the arrival of the Iranian delegation, the Syrian oil minister, expressed delight at the visit and said that by holding the nonaligned foreign ministers conference in Baghdad, Saddam is trying to show that the venue is safe. But Syria will not participate at any conference in Baghdad, be it a nonaligned summit or a foreign ministers conference.

After their arrival, our country's petroleum minister and his entourage met with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. During this meeting, Mr Khaddam, welcoming the Iranian delegation, said that our view is identical with yours, that the nonaligned conference should not be held in Baghdad.

Mr Khaddam added that Castro, in a message to Hafiz al-Asad, suggested that the foreign ministers conference be held in Havana, and that we agree with this proposal. We have instructed our representatives in the Coordinating Bureau in New York to oppose any plan for holding the conference in Baghdad.

He emphasized that his country will not take part at any conference, at any level, if it is held in Baghdad.

During this meeting, Gharazi explained the stance of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the imposed war and the nonaligned conference. He also made some remarks about the extensive cooperation between Iran and Syria on economic and trade issues.

The Iranian delegation to Syria also met with President Hafiz al-Asad. During this meeting, Gharazi conveyed to him a message and greetings from President Khamene'i and said it is true that Saddam has retreated a little. But he is thinking of assembling the nonaligned foreign ministers in Baghdad in order to show that the situation is suitable for the nonaligned summit, too.

In reply, Hafiz al-Asad said that which stopped the nonaligned heads from gathering in Baghdad will also prevent their foreign ministers.

Al-Asad added that it would not be wise to hold the conference in Baghdad, and Iran's logic in this matter is very strong.

Finally, President al-Asad wished success to the delegation in its trip to African countries.

After the meeting with the Syrian president, the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran left Damascus for Libya.

Free Oil for Enemies of Israel

LD131026 Tehran IRNA in English 0906 GMT 13 Aug 82

[Text] Damascus, Aug. 13 (IRNA) -- The Iranian oil minister, Mohammad Gharazi, who is on a special mission to Syria and Libya in connection with the forthcoming seventh session of the nonaligned summit conference, after a meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad yesterday, said that the meeting was productive.

During the meeting, the Iranian oil minister presented a message of the president of the Islamic Republic, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i, to President al-Asad.

In a separate meeting with the Syrian foreign minister, Gharazi discussed various issues including the venue of the upcoming non-aligned summit conference, the aggression of the Zionist regime against Lebanon and the situation of the region.

Gharazi who left Damascus for Libya yesterday afternoon after a one-day stay in Damascus, told IRNA here that while the Iraqi regime was incapable of providing its overseas embassies with security and had some 45,000 prisoners of war in Iran, it was also willing to endanger the lives of the non-aligned movement's heads in an attempt to preserve its own existence.

Several Iranian missions have been dispatched abroad to discuss the change of venue of the forthcoming non-aligned conference, previously scheduled to meet in Baghdad, Iraq.

The Iranian oil minister stressed that Iran was willing to provide free oil to any country which would fight against the Zionist regime in the region and against the United States as well.

Gharazi praised the stance of the Syrian Government towards the crisis in the region and added that Syria had been able to curb the aggressions of the Jerusalem occupier regime. Iran deemed it its obligation to have a share in crushing the Zionist regime and use all its possibilities against it and wait for the day that the Palestinian masses would regain their rights, he added.

Departure Statement

GF151105 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 15 Aug 82

[Text] Petroleum Minister Gharazi arrived in Algiers yesterday after concluding his visit to Libya during which he met with Revolutionary Council Command member and Prime Minister 'Abd as-Salam Jallud. Gharazi carries a message from President Seyyed Khamene'i to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

Meanwhile, the evening paper KEYHAN yesterday carried the statement which Gharazi made at Damascus Airport prior to his departure for Libya and following his meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian ministers of foreign affairs and oil and natural resources. The Iranian petroleum minister expressed his satisfaction with the results of his talks with Syrian leaders. Speaking on the goal of his visit, he said: The visit was made to deliver a message from President Seyyed Khamene'i to his brother Hafiz al-Asad in addition to informing the Syrian leaders of the stands of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the next meeting of the leaders of the Nonaligned Movement and informing friendly countries about what is taking place in Iraq. He added: By kindling the fires of war, Iraq lost about 45 percent of its military personnel since they are prisoners in Iran. Since this regime has failed to ensure security for its embassies abroad, how can it ensure security for the leaders of the nonaligned countries?

On making use of the oil weapon, Gharazi said: Petroleum is [word indistinct] our blood. The Islamic Republic of Iran announced earlier on the International Day of the Oppressed that (?it places itself) [word indistinct] for the revolution of the oppressed in the world. That is why we announce that all those who fight Israel in the region will fight the United States in the world and [word indistinct] with oil. He added that petroleum is a tool in the hands of the oppressed. There is no room for political bargaining.

On the position of Islamic Iran toward the Zionist aggression, the petroleum minister said: The Iranian people realize that their duty is to take part in crushing the Zionists and to make use of all their capabilities against aggressor Israel. (?They look forward to) the day when the Palestine people will gain their full legitimate rights and remove all traces of the ominous aggression by the usurping Zionist enemy because this is a divine responsibility.

Gharazi expressed hope that the troops of Islam and (?everybody) will make their way to Jerusalem through Karbala.

Remarks on Nonaligned Summit

LD161244 Tehran IRNA in English 0945 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] Algiers, Aug 16 (IRNA) -- Wherever the member countries decide as the venue of the non-aligned summit conference, Iran will accept, now that the non-aligned countries have found Baghdad an unsuitable location, said the Iranian minister of oil, Mohammad Gharazi, in Algeria. The Iranian delegation he was heading left Algeria for Guinea Sunday afternoon and were seen off at the Algiers airport by the Algerian minister of light industries and the Iranian ambassador to Algiers.

Prior to his departure Gharazi, in an interview, said that the objective of his tour was to submit the letters of President Khamene'i to the heads of the non-aligned member states. He added that President Bendjedid was on holiday so he submitted his letter to the Algeria prime minister, Abdelghani. The subject of the letter was the venue of the non-aligned summit conference and the foreign ministers meeting.

He noted that Saddam was trying to convene the non-aligned foreign ministers assembly in Baghdad. But the non-aligned countries made him understood that was impossible. He stated that Saddam endeavored to harm the Islamic Republic of Iran but now was in a position where he himself was in grave danger. Gharazi added that those who granted aid to Saddam should understand that Saddam could not protect their interests.

INDUSTRIES MINISTER HEADS DELEGATION TO DPRK

LD160850 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] At the invitation of the DPRK an Iranian economic and technical delegation led by Behzad Nabavi, minister of heavy industries, left for that country at 0600 today. Before his departure Mr Nabavi was interviewed by IRNA on the purpose of this trip. Mr Nabavi said: This visit is in return for the trip by the DPRK delegation which was headed by the prime minister of that country. He added: During this trip issues related to the memorandum of understanding which was signed earlier between the two countries will be followed up, and there will be talks and exchanges of views on expanding political and economic relations with North Korea.

It is noteworthy that the governor of the Iranian Central Bank, three deputies of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, the deputy defense minister and several deputy ministers from related ministries are the other members of this delegation.

KHOMEYNI STRESSES COOPERATION TO BUSHEHR IMAMS

LD161402 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Text] Friday imams of Bushehr Province met today with Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. During this meeting, first the Friday imam of Bushehr, as representative of the Friday imams of the province, presented a report on the situation in Bushehr region to the imam of the Islamic nation. Afterwards the imam of the Islamic nation addressed them. The text of the speech is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I am grateful to the gentlemen who have come a long way. As I have often said, it is yet another blessing of this republic which enables us to see the ulema from remote places to discuss various issues. I hope this policy will continue.

The issues which you mentioned have existed throughout history.

The issue of the clergy not being involved in politics is nothing new. This issue was raised during the Bani Umayyah [a khalif dynasty shortly after Prophet Mohammad] and was strengthened during the [subsequent] Bani 'Abbas era. In recent times when foreigners became involved in countries, they also aggravated the condition. Unfortunately, some religious persons and committed clergy also believe, for instance, that if a mullah becomes involved in political issues, it will be a blow to his status. This is one of the big plots of colonialism that some people have believed.

I hope all Friday imams, wherever they may be with our Shi'a or Sunni brothers, will pay great attention to this issue because even now there are some individuals who have ill intentions and who want to create discord between these two strata. It is a tragedy for the Muslims that there is still some murmuring on this. But thank God, the level of the murmuring has decreased and the plot of the saboteurs has failed.

Several days ago I received a letter saying that in some regions such as Sistan and Bakhtaran some individuals have raised divisive issues in religious ceremonies or in some sermons. But some of the Sunni brothers themselves have objected to these individuals, stressing that it is not the time for raising such issues. You are aware that prominent Shi'a and Sunni ulema have been trying for some time to cooperate with each other and to ignore divisive issues.

People who have the same religion and the same prophet should be brothers and cooperate with one another. But some individuals are striving to create discord; and you know well who will benefit from discord. You inform the people and let them know that these sorts of deeds committed by such individuals will not serve the interests of the Muslims, and that they do not wish us well. Such deeds and discord will serve imperialism and the enemy. You gentlemen must attach great significance to Friday prayers. It is also one blessing of the Islamic Republic that this divine and political tradition is promoted so much that all foreigners have noticed it. I hope this tradition will continue, God willing.

You mentioned poverty and deprivation in those regions. I am also aware that the former regime always kept the people in poverty. This was its policy. I hope this war will end, and the government, which is ready to serve and which is a servant, will carry out its task. Of course, you know it is a difficult task, but with the people's support and agreement, the task will become easy, as it has been the case to date and as the people have taken the initiative to remedy the war damages. The government would not have been able to remedy these damages by itself. Today we must all join together and support one another. If one level opposes another, discord will gradually intensify and lead to failure. I hope we will all be able to thwart the propaganda waged against us. I hope a unity of word will be created among all of us, and the Sunni and Shi'a brothers will work together. This way we can work. May God bestow success upon us all. May God's peace, mercy and blessings be upon you all.

Today's meeting between the Friday imams of Bushehr Province and the imam of the Islamic nation was attended by Hojaj-e Eslam Messrs Seyyed Mohammad Madani, Friday imam of Bushehr; Sheykh 'Abbas Rahimi-Najafabadi, Friday imam of Borazjan; Sheykh Mostafa Salehi, Friday imam of Khark Island; Sheykh Hoseyn Montazeri, Friday imam of (Bandar Deyr); Sheykh 'Abdollahif Shokri, Sunni sect Friday imam of Khark Island; Sheykh 'Abdollah Mohammadi-Esfahani, Friday imam of (Bandar Gonaveh); Sheykh Mohammad 'Ali Taleb, Friday imam of Minab; and Sheykh 'Ali Sedaqat, ad interim Friday imam of Bushehr.

Sunni Clergymen Censored

GF161858 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 16 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Mullah Khomeyni today in Jamaran talked about the strong opposition of the Sunnis to the regime of the Islamic Republic. Khomeyni, who had received a number of Bushehr clergymen, said: In Kermanshahan and Baluchestan there are those working to create dissension which is not beneficial to religion or politics. He also said religion and politics are inseparable and those who say otherwise are either uninformed or wish to create dissension. Khomeyni wanted to defend the question of velayat-e faqih [clerical rule] in this way.

According to our correspondent in Tehran there were a number of Sunni clergymen present at today's meeting with Khomeyni including the so-called Friday imams of Dayyer and (Kangan) who spoke but these speeches were censored by the occupied Tehran radio -- the shamed voice of the regime of Khomeyni -- which did not broadcast them.

HEAVY INDUSTRIES MINISTER INTERVIEWED IN BUSHEHR

GFI41727 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 11 Aug 82

[Interview with Behzad Nabavi, minister of heavy industries, during his visit to Bushehr on 11 August -- recorded]

[Excerpt] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Dear viewers [as heard], Brother Behzad Nabavi, the honorable minister of heavy industries, has come to Bushehr today, heading a delegation which is visiting the province.

[Question] Mr Nabavi, while welcoming you, I request that you kindly inform us of the purpose of your visit to Bushehr Province.

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [Words indistinct] in order to visit the marine industries in Bushehr, as well as naval repair facilities. [Words indistinct] during this visit I was also able to meet with the honorable Friday imam of Bushehr and brother [name indistinct].

[Question] Brother Nabavi, as you said, you visited the marine industries in Bushehr today. Please tell us [words indistinct] and how you perceive the condition of marine industries in Bushehr.

[Answer] The purpose of my visit was to learn about the conditions of the marine industries in Bushehr and the possibilities for expansion in this sector. This visit has fortunately been useful. [passage indistinct]

[Question] Could you give us some details of the conditions of all the industries in the country and of the formation of the new Ministry of Heavy Industries and explain to what extent it has become operational?

[Answer] As you are aware, after the revolution, the Ministry of Mines and Industry was divided into three ministries: the Ministry of Heavy Industries, the Ministry of Mines and Metals and the Ministry of Industries. This, of course, does not mean we divided the Ministry of Industry and Mines to three new ministries. What it means is the added attention which [words indistinct] using the matter of growth and expansion of the industry and has tried to give more attention to each portion of the national industry by the formation of these three ministries. The formation of the Ministry of Heavy Industries is based on the same logic. As a whole, [words indistinct] the Ministry of Heavy Industries is dealing with the expansion of metal industries and their establishment. It also is responsible for the establishment and expansion of the capital metal industries (as heard) which form a large portion of the country's industry and it is also responsible for the self-sufficiency and industrial independence of the country. For example, at present, in order to produce consumer goods, we have to import factories from abroad; we do not have the capability to build factories. The aim of the Ministry of Heavy Industries is to promote the growth and expansion of plants that will produce and develop factories.

There are many different groups in the heavy industries category, such as the automotive group, which manufactures heavy industrial products like ships and planes as well as light industrial products such as bicycles and motorcycles. The manufacture of engines for cars, ships and planes; turbines; generators and many other things are also covered under this group. Other auto supplies, batteries, large furnaces, iron and metal manufacturing are included in this category, too. [Words indistinct] in general, this ministry was formed for the purpose of promoting growth and industrial self-sufficiency and the independence of Islamic Republic industries.

[Question] During your meetings with the officials of Bushehr Province, what topics were discussed?

[Answer] Of course, special questions dealing with the general problems and difficulties of the province were discussed seriously with the honorable Friday imam and the governor general. The major problems of the province will, God willing, be reviewed by the brother ministers who will be appointed by the Cabinet and charged with reviewing the problems of the province. They will come here and, God willing, they will have more to tell the faithful, Muslim and oppressed people of Bushehr.

[Question] Brother Nabavi, you will be visiting Korea. What is the purpose of the trip and what results do you foresee?

[Answer] It is in connection with the expansion of our economic and industrial relations with the DPRK following the visit by the DPRK's prime minister to Tehran in Ordibehesht [month ending 21 May] and in connection with the accord reached between the two prime ministers. I will be heading an Iranian delegation comprising various deputy ministers of the ministries of industries and experts and will be looking into methods of expanding the economic ties between the two countries. One of the reasons for my trip to Bushehr and the reason why I was adamant about making this trip [words indistinct] was review of the marine industry so, God willing, we can try to find facilities and possibilities in that country to aid in developing our marine industries.

[Question] Brother Nabavi, from your point of view as one of the [word indistinct] brothers of revolution, how do you recognize the imam's line, which many people claim to follow?

[Answer] This question is no longer applicable. There were differences of opinion at the time of Bani-Sadr and during the activities of the hypocrites and the liberals. However, now, by the grace of God, all those problems have been solved and the imam's line has shown its true nature. It is ruling the Islamic Republic and such a question no longer means anything. However, the line of the imam is clear. Its true meaning is the same as the true line of Islam, something we relied on in the past. It is the line of clerical Islam. It is the line relying on the Velayate Faqih. It is a line where you accept the imam as the Faqih and in charge of affairs. Anyone who accepts this is a follower of the imam's line.

REZA'I SPEAKS TO PRESS ABOUT INTERNAL GROUPS, WAR

GF161840 Tehran ETELA'AT in Persian 7 Aug 82 p 4

[Report on 5 August press, radio and television conference by Mohsen Reza'i commander of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps in Tehran]

[Excerpts] Reza'i answering a correspondent's question about the fourth operation against the hypocrites said: During the fourth operation which was carried out on 1 August we covered 30 hypocrite bases and the entire operation last 72 hours. Over 50 hypocrites were either killed or arrested during the operation and there are many important members of the hypocrite minigroup [Mojahedin-e Khalq] among them.

The communications department of the hypocrites, which was responsible for contacts with abroad, contact with Kordestan and the transfer of members to Kordestan and abroad, was completely destroyed and now they are concentrating all their efforts on escaping. The city department of this minigroup was destroyed on 11 June. Siavosh Seyfi was among those killed. They lost Hamid Jalali from their logistics department and this was a serious blow. We found 60 special arms destined for the central group as well as 10 powerful bombs and a good deal of ammunition. Over 700 types of stamps similar to those found at the den of espionage, foreign passports and extensive documents were also discovered. We hope that with the discovery of these documents we no longer have a "hypocrite" problem. However, as our nation is aware, this was our fourth operation. We shall continue such operations in the future. The first blow was dealt against the central organization on 19th [month not specified]. Musa Khiabani was killed in this operation. The second blow was dealt on 9 June. In this operation the organization's logistics department was destroyed and the latest blow was the 1 August operation in which over 50 members were either killed or arrested.

The commander of the revolution guards then mentioned the Kordestan incidents and said: Our nation knows that after reviewing the war situation, the guards and the army decided to establish a Karbala headquarters. We have established a Hamzeh headquarters in Kordestan and hope to uproot the Kordestan problem in the same manner as that of the war with Iraq.

Answering a question on the uprooting of terrorism he said: The most important matter is strengthening the implementation and battle against counterrevolutionaries. Due to our correct intelligence methods we have concluded that we must increase the protection of officials and invest more in intelligence work!

Answering a question on the Ministry of Guards, Reza'i said: Since the revolution guards is one of the organizations under the control of the leader, it had no direct contact with the government. A ministry was created to coordinate between the guards and the government. This ministry will coordinate with the government and the Majlis. The main responsibility of the Ministry of Guards is to coordinate with the government and Majlis.

Reza'i explained the invasion of Iraq and said: The main aim of the Ramadan operation was concentrated on our own soil but we reached the conclusion that if we want the Islamic Republic to remain, then Saddam must be destroyed and our cities close to the Iraqi border must be made secure. The means to achieve this is the destruction of Saddam and the Iraqi Ba'thist Party. If we can capture [as published] the main element, which is Saddam, then his regime will be destroyed. There was an interview with a captured Iraqi colonel. He talked about all subjects without fear. He is so sure of Saddam's destruction that he, courageously, revealed everything. This may be because of a U.S. promise that they would do something about the Iraqi problem and then did not do a damn thing. Our basic aim is to destroy the Iraqi forces. So far we have destroyed 1,000 of their tanks and vehicles. All these facts will be announced later. The Ramadan operation continues. Nearly 40 percent of the operation has been completed so far.

ZANJAN REVOLUTION GUARDS CORP DISCOVERS TEAMHOUSES

GF151833 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 5 Aug 82 p 4

[Communique issued by the Zanzan Islamic Revolution Guards Corps -- date not given]

[Excerpts] Following the recent victories of the combatants of Islam on the battlefield of right against wrong, the internal agents of the United States are making dastardly attempts to serve their master, the United States, within the country.

Due to the selfless efforts of the brother guards and the cooperation of the hezbollahi nation, some team nests have been discovered and the following articles were seized: 1) two G-3's; 2) one Kalashnikov; 3) eight metal and plastic grenades; cartridges for Colts, G-3's, Kalashnikovs; a few hundred meters of wick ready for use with explosives and bearing the insignia of the hypocrites; spare parts and accessories of various kinds for typewriters; different types of incendiary materials such as TNT and gunpowder with other materials such as sulfur for the manufacture of powerful bombs and grenades; a variety of publications and propaganda material and miscellaneous items such as photostencil needles. These hypocrites, who are unaware of God's existence, should know their time has come and as long as the hezbollahi ubiquitous nation is on the scene, it will not allow these lackeys even to draw a breath. They should avail themselves of the opportunity [to give themselves up] and we announce the following conditions:

1. Most of the houses and shops used by the hypocrites for their activities are rented and most of the shops are used under the guise of perfumeries and others. [as published]

2. We repeat our warning to the hypocrites that they should take advantage of the opportunity and give themselves up; otherwise, they will be liable to prosecution.

With due thanks for the unflinching cooperation of our hezbollahi brothers and sisters, we hope that with your cooperation we will not hear anymore of the hypocrites and infidels in our Islamic society.

[Signed] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, Zanzan

KHOMEYNI SAID TO USE PILGRIMS TO EXPORT REVOLUTION

GF141142 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 0330 GMT 13 Aug 82

[Text] [Passage indistinct] last year Saudi security forces arrested a group of Khomeyni supporters and subsequently threw the leaders of [words indistinct] out of the country.

A correspondent for Voice of Iran reports that Khomeyni and other mullahs who rule Iran have been planning for a long time to export their revolution under the guise of carrying out a pilgrimage. Many pilgrims have been trained for this operation.

Last week Khomeyni appointed mullah Musavi-Kho'ini, who is one of the smartest and the most devious mullahs, as the chief of the Iranian pilgrims and asked the different committees of the haj services to obey him.